

Section I - Assessment and Placement

The Rhode Island Department of Education is part of the [World Class Instructional Design and Assessment \(WIDA\) Consortium](#) and has adopted the [WIDA K-12 Screener](#) as the recommended placement language assessment for potential English Learners.

To support the administration of the WIDA Screener, please refer to the informative documents WIDA publishes at: [WIDA Screener Frequently Asked Questions](#)

- Placement tests should be administered only by trained personnel who have participated in the WIDA online training and have obtained a WIDA test administrator certificate.
- As the WIDA Screener or KW-APT assessments are completed, parents should be notified in a timely manner about the assessment result and the instructional programs offered for English Learners. Parents should also be informed of the opportunity to opt out of EL programs or a particular EL service. LEAs should in no way dissuade parents from receiving EL services.
- LEAs must inform parents in written form of assessment results and placement in their home language, and if translation is not provided, LEAs must ensure that oral interpretation is made available.
- Placement of ELs in a specialized instructional program for ELs shall be made within twenty (20) school days of the completion of the Home Language Survey.¹

¹ Regulations Governing the Education of English Language Learners. (2000, September 10). Retrieved from <http://ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Inside-RIDE/Laws-Regulations/English-Language-Learners-Regulations.pdf> Authorized by R.I.G.L. 16-54-2